

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

S E C R E T STATE 012402

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

SUBJECT: VIGNES AND THE BUENOS AIRES MEETING

REF: BUENOS AIRES 0359

FROM ASST SECT ROGERS FOR AMBASSADOR HILL

BRASILIA (FOR AMBASSADOR CRIMMINS)

SANTIAGO (FOR AMBASSADOR MAILLIARD)

1. ORFILA CALLED ME YESTERDAY. HE HAD JUST TALKED WITH VIGNES AND, AS WELL, WITH RABASA AFTER RABASA'S MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY. ORFILA WAS QUOTE PES-SIMISTIC UNQUOTE ABOUT THE BUENOS AIRES MEETING, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF TRADE ACT ISSUES.

2. VIGNES HAD ASKED HIM TO TAKE SOUNDINGS WITH US AS TO VIGNES' PROPOSAL FOR HANDLING THE CUBA QUESTION AT BA, AND AS TO WHAT WE WERE DOING TO ASSURE THAT ECUADOR, VENEZUELA AND MEXICO ATTEND. IT IS INTERESTING THAT VIGNES DISCUSSED CUBA AND TRADE

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ACT WITH YOU, BUT DID NOT RAISE POSSIBILITY OF

POSTPONEMENT. IN ALL EVENTS, ORFILA SEEMED EMPHATIC THAT IT WAS VIGNES' VIEW THE MEETING COULD NOT GO FORWARD IF ONE OR MORE COUNTRIES STAYED AWAY.

3. I HAVE NOW ADVISED ORFILA TODAY AS FOLLOWS: WE AGREE TO GENERAL PROPOSAL SET FORTH IN REFTTEL, THAT DECLARATION BE MADE AT BUENOS AIRES THAT THE RIO TREATY IS TO BE AMENDED TO PERMIT SANCTIONS TO BE LIFTED BY A MAJORITY.

4. AMBASSADOR PULIT TOLD YOU THAT MODALITIES NOT YET WORKED OUT AND HE WOULD DISCUSS WITH EMBASSY IN A FEW DAYS. QTE MODALITIES UNQTE ARE IMPORTANT, NOT ONLY IN TERMS OF BA MEETING BUT IN HANDLING ISSUE DURING APRIL OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY HERE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE REPORT OF ARGENTINE VIEWS THIS QUESTION SOONEST BUT PREFER YOU MAKE NO REPEAT NO COMMENT UNTIL AFTER WE HAVE STUDIED THEM.

5. RE TRADE ACT, I TOLD ORFILA THAT U.S. IS DOING ALL IT REASONABLY CAN TO CONCILIATE ECUADOR, VENEZUELA AND OTHERS, BUT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE THAT WHAT WE ARE DOING WILL BE ENOUGH TO INSURE THAT ALL ATTEND. WE BOTH RECOGNIZE THAT WE WOULD, HOWEVER, HAVE TO ABIDE EVENTS, PARTICULARLY THE DEBATE ON MONDAY IN THE OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL. THIS WILL GIVE US ANOTHER MEASURE OF THE INTENSITY OF THE FEELING ABOUT THE BA MEETING. IF ARGENTINA THEN DECIDES THAT IT MUST POSTPONE, WE WILL UNDERSTAND. I SAID VIGNES SHOULD NOT HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT WE ARE IMPELLING HIM ONE WAY OR THE OTHER.

6. FOR BRASILIA: WE PREFER YOU NOT REPEAT NOT MENTION TO BRAZILIANS THAT ORFILA HAS RAISED POSSIBILITY OF POSTPONEMENT UNLESS AND UNTIL WE GET CLEAR INDICATION VIGNES IS MOVING IN THAT DIRECTION. KISSINGER

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